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Chief, Special Document Sec  
THRU: Chief, Captured Documents  
Branch, MID

Chief/Intelligence  
Group

29 May 46

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A.D. MacLean/5509/mf

1. The mission of the Special Documents Section is to extract from captured German Documents all factual information pertaining to the USSR.

2. The project system will be utilized to guide the efforts of the research translator personnel of the Special Documents Section. The projects will be prepared by the Chief, Eurasian Branch.

3. Projects may also be initiated by the personnel of SDS. These projects will be forwarded to the Chief, Intelligence Group, through Chief, Eurasian Branch, for approval before work is initiated on them.

4. A record of production will be kept by SDS. A monthly statistical report of production will be rendered to the Chief, Intelligence Group. A careful record will be kept of the individual research translators in SDS of their individual production. A complete compilation of production will be kept in the office of the Chief, Captured Documents Branch, MID.

5. Research translators working in accordance with the research projects will extract factual information from captured German documents or captured Russian documents or produce a full translation of same, depending upon the quality of the subject matter. These productions will be rendered in the form of factual information reports to the research agencies.

6. Information reports will be prepared and submitted as finished to the Chief, Captured Documents Branch, for distribution.

7. In establishing SDS, the minimum number of personnel will be assigned to administrative overhead. The maximum number of people will be assigned to productive research translation work.

/s/R. F. Ennis  
R. F. ENNIS  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief, Intelligence Group

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TAB "A"

1. The following paragraphs summarize, in extract form, the various directives which have been issued pertaining to the mission of the Special Document Section.

a. IOM issued by the Chief, Intelligence Group, ID, WDGS dated 29 May 1946, established the original mission of the Special Document Section. (See Appendix 1). The underscored items are of paramount importance.

b. Extracted from SDS Monthly Report No. 1, dated 31 July 1946:

"On 26 June 1946, the Chief, Intelligence Group called a conference to establish high priority subjects to be dealt with by SDS. The following five projects were set-up:

- I Atomic Energy
- II Machine Tools
- III Railway Capacities
- IV Shipbuilding
- V Tele-Communications"

Subsequent to this conference and based on informal listings received from Eurasian Branch, Operational Directive No. 2 was issued on 28 June 1946 outlining the breakdown of each project. (See Appendix No.2)

c. Extracted from SDS Monthly Report No.3, dated 3 October '46:

"The various translating and research groups were reorganized in order to meet the new requirements given the Special Document Section, namely, the establishment of the Industrial Plants File Index and the Newspaper Evaluation Section (Press Evaluation Section)."

The Industrial Card File was established by the Defences Project under the auspices of the Intelligence Division. The original, as well as the revised instructions are attached as Appendix Nos. 3 and 4.

d. Concurrent with the establishment of this Industrial Card File Project, it was found that most of the information concerning Project No. IV (par. 1 b, above) had been exploited. It was therefore decided that the ICF project would card all future information concerning shipbuilding installations.

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e. During the month of October it was found that all sources concerning Project No. I (par. 1 b, above) had been exhausted. The Exploitation Coordinator therefore assumed responsibility for further collation of factual information concerning Atomic Energy.

f. In December 1946, it became apparent that the materials on hand, which concerned themselves with Telecommunications (Project No. V) had been exploited to their fullest. The Telecommunications project was then merged with the Railroad project.

g. In January 1947, the production of a Handbook on the U.S.S.R. was favorably considered. This project was then given an arbitrary deadline of 1 May 1947 for completion. It is based on top-level German documents and is truly an overall study.

h. The most recent revision of the mission of SDS is extracted from Monthly Report No. 8, dated 7 March 1947:

"At the conference on 25 February 1947, it was decided that SDS should turn to the exploitation of Russian documents, German documents concerning the economy of the Russian satellite nations, and low-level German documents dealing with the economy of Russia, when the exploitation of all top-level German documents has been completed. The ICF Section has already begun to card information on the industry of Romania. For detailed report..... see Appendix No. 5.

2. The foregoing is primarily intended to be a recapitulation of the background for the missions of SDS. Tab "B" will give the status of current projects, which are being conducted based on the above.

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